1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Steel Majors	860	850	800	850	825	877	818	798	888	848	871	828
Others	1945	2050	2000	2050	1775	1823	1882	1902	1912	1952	2029	1578
Sub TOTAL (B)	3229	3319	3216	3370	3012	3116	3125	3136	3273	3245	3388	2920
Grand TOTAL (A + B)	4724	4799	4635	4865	4340	4429	4431	4537	4744	4680	4855	4204

Source: Joint Plant Committee (JPC)

* Provisional

Statement-IV

Retail Steel Price Movement in Delhi Market during Dec. 2007 to Dec. 2008

Month	H R 2.0 m m	C R 0.63 m m	TMT 10 mm	Wire Rod 8 m m	Pig Iron	Pencil Ingot 100 m m
December 2007	35100	38000	32200	32000	24500	26650
January 2008	35350	38700	37450	35000	24250	30725
February 2008	38100	40575	40200	37500	26000	33000
March 2008	44000	48000	43775	43450	31000	40000
April 2008	49000	52000	46000	43600	34500	38300
May 2008	43000	45000	38200	38000	32400	33000
June 2008	50045	49492	47451	45925	32900	39650
July 2008	45327	48145	43335	43738	35397	38168
August 2008	45477	48145	42727	43073	36873	35366
September 2008	45327	48700	41934	43664	36000	35300
October 2008	44984	47119	40253	41726	34947	29300
November 2008	41977	42392	38846	40105	29164	27221
December 2008 (As on 8.12.2008)	41907	43037	37907	38662	26000	26486

• Monthly prices as on 15th of the corresponding month

Source: Joint Plant Committee (JPC)

Merger of steel companies

2164.SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to make Orissa Minerals Development Company (OMDC), Barabil and Bishra Lime Stone Company as public sector companies and ultimately merge them with SAIL;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether OMDC as per the guidelines of State Government is going to set up a mini steel plant at Keonjhar in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) The task for preparation of the restructuring proposal of the companies under the Bird Group of Companies under the administrative control of Ministry of Steel, which include *inter-alia* Orissa Minerals Development Company (OMDC) and Bisra Stone Lime Company (BSLC), was given to IFCI Ltd. The Report of IFCI Ltd. has been received and has recommended *inter-alia* making the Companies under the Bird Group of Companies including OMDC and BSLC, Government Companies and also to make them subsidiary units of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL). However, in the proposed restructuring alternatives, there is no proposal to merge OMDC and BSLC with Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL).

(c) There is no proposal of OMDC, at present, to set up mini steel plant at Keonjhar, Orissa.

Economic pressure on steel industries

†2165. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that around 66 countries of the world are producing steel;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that India is amongst those countries where production of steel has increased during October 2007 to October, 2008;

(d) if so, the number of countries where production of steel has increased and the number of countries where production of steel has decreased during above period; and

(e) the reasons for economic pressure on the steel producing industries in the country despite decrease in the production of steel at international level and the increase in the production of steel in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) The World Steel Association, formerly known as International Iron & Steel Institute (IISI), reports on 66 steel producing countries of the world which account for nearly 98% of the total world steel production. However, for October, 2008, details in respect of 65 countries have been reported. A table containing names of reporting countries and the data on crude steel produced by them during the month of October, 2008 published by World Steel Association is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) As per the data published by World Steel Association, world crude steel production for the month of October 2008 has increased in 18 countries and declined in 45 countries while there is no change in the remaining two countries as compared to October 2007.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.